

To whom it may concern--

I am writing to urge you to reject BellSouth's petition to allow them to deny access to their DSL lines to independent Internet Service Providers (ISPs).

I'm currently a customer of SONIC.net, an independent ISP in Northern California; I use their residential DSL service. I value the exceptional service provided to me by SONIC. In my experience, they provide a superior service in terms of reliability, performance, and general customer service. I'm very happy that I have the choice to use them as an ISP.

If the FCC grants the BellSouth petition, this would allow incumbent telcos to deny access to independent ISPs such as SONIC. This in turn would drastically reduce the choices available to me (as well as thousands of Internet users nationwide). I would be forced to use one of two large Internet service providers (an incumbent telco and a cable company). My experience is that they provide inferior service to my current provider, and I see no incentives for them to improve. This cannot be in the best interests of consumers.

Please reject BellSouth's petition.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bruce A. Mah